

PORTSMOUTH SCHOOL BOARD PUBLIC MEETING FOR FEBRUARY 4, 2014

COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL

PORTSMOUTH, NH

DATE: TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2014

TIME: 6:30 PM (or thereafter)

- I. CALL TO ORDER- Chair Stevens called the meeting to order at 6:34 pm
- II. ROLL CALL – LESLIE STEVENS, DEXTER LEGG, TOM MARTIN, PATRICK ELLIS, ANN WALKER, NANCY NOVELLINE-CLAYBURGH, JEFF LANDRY, LENNIE MULLANEY, GARY EPLER, ED MCDONOUGH (SUPERINTENDENT) STEVE ZADRAVEC (ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT), STEVE BARTLETT (BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR) AND OLIN JOHANNESSEN (EMPLOYEE REPRESENTATIVE)
- III. INVOCATION
- IV. PLADGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Chair Stevens led the Board in the pledge of allegiance.
- V. PUBLIC COMMENT - None
- VI. OLD BUSINESS
 - a. WORKSHOP SESSION ON FY 2015 BUDGET
 - b. FY15 BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS – Mr. Bartlett provided an updated budget overview.
 - c. SPECIAL EDUCATION - Ms. Simons shared a PowerPoint of the Special Ed FY2014-15 budget, highlighting increasing numbers of ESOL students, homeless students, and shared cost students (where transportation costs are split). Ms. Simons publicly thanked several companies and organizations who adopted a number of families over the holidays, making a difference in many students’ lives. Board members followed up with questions including shared costs students and how costs are determined between districts, the responsibilities of a district’s homeless liaison, decreasing tuition revenue and the reasons for it, and finally staffing levels and how Ms. Simons determines staff assignments based upon students’ needs. Medicaid reimbursement remains high due to staff diligence in making sure all services are written within a student’s IEP. The district is now reporting and tracking all Medicaid reimbursements on line. Board members concluded with reviewing how a student is identified and an IEP is determined.
 - d. OTHER
- VII. NEW BUSINESS
 - a. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF NEW BOARD MEMBER – In December, 2013 the School Board received the resignation of Ms. Mary Olea. The Board wishes to nominate Mr. Gary Epler for election.

MOTION: Motion to approve Mr. Gary Eplar to the Portsmouth School Board to serve out the remaining term of Board member Mary Olea by Vice-Chair Legg
SECOND: Ms. Walker
DISCUSSION: None
VOTE: Unanimously Approved
- VIII. ADJOURNMENT - Motion to adjourn at 7:49 p.m. by Vice-Chair Legg and seconded by Ms. Clayburgh. Unanimously Approved.